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SPORTS

Winchester boys hockey drops OT heartbreaker to St. John's in Elite 8 game

JOE MCCONNELL | SPORTS EDITOR

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Winchester Red & Black junior Caiden Brady (15) is alongside sophomore teammate Max Vozzella (19), who's bringing the puck up ice to create a play during a game this year. COURTESY PHOTO/LEGACY STUDIOS

The Winchester High School Red & Black boys hockey team (14-1 seed) came within one overtime goal from advancing to the Divis

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semifinal round after St. John's of Shrewsbury (12-12, 14th seed) pushed across the game-winner in the extra period to win the Elite 8 game, 4-3 at the Chelmsford Forum on March 6.

Winchester Red & Black senior captain Jonathan Garmey (9) looks for a pass as he hopes to get a shot on goal during a game this year. COURTESY PHOTO/LEGACY STUDIOS

St. John's then went on to defeat Arlington (18-6-2, seventh seed) three days later in the state semifinals by the exact same score – but in regulation this time – at Lowell's Tsongas Center. The Spy Ponders reached the Final Four, when they upset St. John's Prep (17-6, second seed) in double overtime, 2-1, in their Elite 8 contest the day before Winchester's OT heartbreaker at the same venue.

As a result of these outcomes, St. John's will be squaring off against Catholic Memorial (18-6-1, fourth seed) in the D-1 state championship game at the TD Garden this Sunday (March 16), starting at 1 p.m.

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"Although the season did not end the way we wanted it to, we had a lot to be proud of," said Coach Gino Khachadourian. "Every year our goal is to compete at the highest level and win the Division 1 state title. We were unable to accomplish that this season, but I'm proud of our team and the way we played throughout the season.

Winchester Red & Black senior captain Griffin Lynch (7) skates into the offensive zone to help create a play during a game this year. COURTESY PHOTO/LEGACY STUDIOS

"Like other seasons, we had our ups and downs, but when we earned our playoff seed, I knew we had a chance to win the whole thing," added Khachadourian. "We played our best hockey in the playoffs, and were rewarded with another deep playoff run. The playoffs are an incredible time of the year for our kids, as well as the community at-large, and we hope we had brought a lot of excitement and pride to the town of Winchester (with these games).

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"Our seniors did a tremendous job leading their teammates throughout the season, and we can't thank them enough for their commitment to the program," he concluded. "They were able to build upon our culture as a team, while continuing to set the (program's high) standards for years to come."

Junior Caiden Brady led the Winchester boys on offense with one goal and two assists against St. John's. Senior captains Chris McCarthy and Jonathan Garmey accounted for the other two scores. Sophomore goalie Graham Emerick did his part to keep his teammates close on the scoreboard with 36 big saves straight through most of the overtime period. St. John's didn't notch the winning goal until there was less than three minutes to go in the extra frame.

Winchester Red & Black senior captain Chris McCarthy (12) takes a shot on goal during a game t
McCarthy and his teammates went far into the Division 1 state tournament, before losing in ov
John's of Shrewsbury in an Elite 8 game. COURTESY PHOTO/LEGACY STUDIOS

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Casey chosen Middlesex League all-star

Senior captain Thomas Casey is Winchester's lone Middlesex League all-star representative, and, according to Khachadourian, "it is well-deserved," while adding, "Thomas was a staple of our defensive core, as well as also being a consistent all-around player. He's a four-year varsity player, who represents himself, the team and the community to the highest of standards at all times. We will certainly miss a player like Thomas, because he has helped out the younger players tremendously in a sense of leadership and performance (on and off the ice)."

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It was the third meeting this year between Middlesex League boys basketball rivals Lexington (16-5, 11th seed) and Winchester (17-4, 22nd seed). They split the first two during the regular season, thus making this Round of 32 postseason matchup the impromptu rubber game of this year's series, with the

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March 3, 2026

After the Winchester High qualified wrestlers competed hard over two days last weekend (Feb. 20, 21) in the State Division 1 Meet at North Andover High School, Mother Nature gave them a break to rest and recuperate with Monday's blizzard that resulted in two days off from school. There

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SPORTS

Winchester boys hockey advances to the Sweet 16 after beating Wachusett in the tournament opener

The Winchester High boys hockey team (12-9-2), the 17th seed, edged the 16th-seeded Wachusett Regional Mountaineers (18-2-1), 5-4 in a Round of 32 Division 1 state tournament game at Westborough's Northstar Ice Arena on Feb. 25. The Red & Black will now take on top seed Catholic Memorial (18-2-1)

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SPORTS

With postseason starting Friday night, WHS boys hoop seniors English, Sarpong, Burbine join Middlesex League elite

The Winchester High boys basketball team, the 22nd seed, will take on Middlesex League rival Lexington, the 11th seed, to begin the Division 1 state tournament in the Round of 32 on Friday night, Feb. 27, starting at 6 p.m. These teams are so evenly matched, beginning with the

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EVENTS

Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester

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Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On

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High School presents "Chicago: Teen Edition," a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

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Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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